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Strange NEWS From  
Lemster in Herefordshire,

Being a True

NARRATIVE

Given Under several Persons Hands there, of  
a most Strange and Prodigious

Opening of the Earth

In Divers places thereabouts.

Also, a True Relation of several Wonderful Sights, *viz.* A *Hand*, an *Arm* and *Shoulder* of the bigness of a Mans; And *Sadles* of Blood - Colour; which were seen to Arise out of the Earth and Ascend up to the Skyes.

Likewise, a Strange and Terrible Noise of Fighting, which was heard during this Miraculous Accident.

All Attested by several persons of Worth and Reputation; and Exhibited for Publick Information.

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Licensed, *May the Third.*

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Strange News from  
*Lemster in Herefordshire, &c.*

**S**Trange and various are the Operations of the Almighty, and his ways *past finding out*; Who can dive into his Intentions, or with the short Line of Humane Reason expect to Fathom his Immence Wisdom, or by the unusual Accurrences of extraordinary Accidents, Presage how he intends to Deal with Ignorant Mankind; especially since not only the Winds but the whole Universe is totally at His disposal?

He who could constrain the Industrious Sun to a Supine gate, or friendly stay, in the heat and vigor of its hasty journey, we need not question but with the least beck of his finger,\* he can Oblige inverted Nature to an unusual Retrogradation: can make her work Backwards; and willingly forgoe the accustomed Paths of her natural Progression, to Tread in those more amiable Footsteps of His indispensable Will.

I will not spend any time in needless Phylosophy-  
sing, or giving any reputed Cause for such unu-  
al Events, nor wast much Eloquence in the Relati-  
on of a Narrative, whose Verity commands a belieif,  
and its Nature a Dread, from the most incredu-  
lous or stubborn Persons that shall Read it. It  
has been Attested upon Oath, and is now both the  
Admiration and Consternation of the whole Country  
wherein it hapned.

This dreadful Apparition was first seen by one  
*Banister* of *Lemster*, in the County aforesaid, who  
as he was walking (on *Tuesday* the 15th. Instant *April*)  
between the two Borroughs of *Stockhen*, and *Kimerton*,  
to his great Amazement beheld the Earth to open  
not many Paces before him; at which he had for a  
Considerable time Admired: behold at last to his  
farther Amazement, he saw a Round thing proceed  
from that Gaping Part of the Earth, of a blew Co-  
lour, but in Form much resembling a Gloab, which  
watching with great intendedness, he might discern  
it to move upwards, and Ascend into the Aire, till  
at length it got out of his sight, and hid it self a-  
mong the sheltering Clouds.

Much amus'd hereat, and almost mistrusting his  
own Senses, he began to Contemplate on the strange  
Apparition, hardly believing his Eyes, or Crediting  
but that he was asleep, and those Visions were  
but the evil Consequences of a bad Digestion, or  
Melancholly Brain, which often Hurries Men into  
such wild Fancies, and extravagant Conceptions which  
disturbs their Repose.

But

But his Doubt had not been debated long before a fresh Wonder unfolded the Riddle, and to the greatest assurance could be given any mortal Creature, assured him that he was awake and in his full and perfect Senses. For (this being about an hour before Sun-set) as he was casting his heedful Eye towards that place which had been the first Occasion of his Admiration, he plainly and distinctly beheld the Earth again to Open; and out of its Dreadful Mouth Proceeded a Hand, an Arm, and part of a Shoulder, about the bigness of those Parts of a Man. They appear'd in a Threatning Posture, the Hand being half Grasped, and of a black mournful Colour, and Ascending up into the Sky.

He farther Depos'd on Oath, that he saw the Earth open seven times, and every time Came forth out of the Ground, such an Arm, and Hand; of such a Colour, and like the former Ascended up into the Sky, til they Vanisht out of his sight.

This most Wonderful Spectacle fill'd him with more Astonishment than the former, so that it took him up some time to consider of the strangeness of these Apparitions; but he had not long Gratifi'd, his Inquisitive Mind with a serious Contemplation on their affrighting Aspect, when he beheld the Earth to open again, and out of its wide Orifice, to proceed a Thing in resemblance of a Saddle; of a very deep Blood-colour. Six times did the earth Open and produce these resemblances of Saddles, which likewise Ascended upwards, till at last they were got out of his sight.

Whilst

Whilst these things thus hapn'd, he remain'd within 20 Yards space of them, and being somewhat imboldened, by seeing the Earth open so often, and no hurt came of it; he was at last, encouraged to draw neerer to the Visions, and would willingly have laid hold of them; but not capable of that, he drew so neer them, that he might perceive them to be of a solid Substance, and not Fictitious or Vaporous; he farther says, he thinks, that if he had taken hold of those things, they had been palpable.

That which is very remarkable is, that when this *Banister* came home, he related to several of his Neighbors, the strange things he had seen, and in what manner, and with what Circumstances he beheld them, whereat they all stood amazed; and Three of them, being more intent on his Relation than the rest; did desire of God, that if such a thing had bin really seen over-night, that they might be permitted to behold it next morning; and when they had thus done, desired the said *Banister* to go along with them, to shew them the Place; which he Consented unto: so with great Patience, they waited till morning. When being come into the said Field, behold, these Three Persons, whose names are, *Humphrey Lawrence*, *Samuel Shourd*, and one *Mr. Cornel*, beheld the Earth open several times, and the like things Ascending out of it, as *Banister* had seen before.

It is farther Credibly reported, as an Evidence of the truth of, this Narrative; that several Gentlemen  
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in and about the aforesaid Town of Lemster, had a mind to go a Courting the Next day; and having not heard any of this Wonderful Apparition, they at last Happened to Beat great part of the Morning so far on, till they Arrived that field where these Wonderful Visions had so lately appeared; where they to their no small Amazement, had their Ears Saluted with a dreadful Martial Noyse, as if Cannons had been discharged: They also perceived dreadful and Terrible Flashes of Active Fire come out of the Ground, which put them into so great Astonishment, that they left their Recreation, and with no small Confusion repaired with all the speed they could make, to their own homes, to tell their Friends and Neighbours what Wonders they had seen.

And thus I have faithfully related to you the strange Apparitions which lately happened near *Lemster* in *Heresfordshire*; which to all ingenuous persons, cannot but cause a great deal of wonder and Amazement; and perhaps to some, Fears and GhesSES at future Judgements; but let such save themselves the Labor of being troubled at any Celestial or Terrestrial events, and employ that time he indiscreetly wasts in dejecting himself, and discouraging others, in looking home into his own Breast: let him but take a serious Cognizance of his own impieties, and repent of, and turn from them, and by this means he shall Arrive at greater Satisfaction and content, than if he were begirt with Armies, guarded by a wall of Hardest-Brass, whose Rampiers reach the Skies; and by this means  
he

he is likeliest to Transmit Comfort to his Religious friend or Neighbour, who will easily tell thee that it is that distrustful Rubbish, Sin, that befouls our Glorious City, and that we can never expect it or its streets should be kept any thing clean, till every one Sweeps against his own Door.

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Whoever Doubts of the Truth of this Relation, they may Repair to Mr. Barnes, an *Oyl-Man* over against *Cripplegate-Church, London*: Or to Mr. Benjamin Harris, Book-Seller, near the Royal Exchange; and there they may see a Copy of a Letter which was sent from Mr. Barnes in the Country, to his Brother in *London*.